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ABSTRACT

This College Library Information Packet (CLIP) Note explores how faculty status affects librarians' promotion and tenure opportunities and the criteria at various institutions for defining librarians' status. In September 1995, a survey was sent to a group of 265 small and medium sized academic libraries, eliciting a response rate of 70% (n=185). The survey found that 35% of the responding institutions indicated that librarians were eligible for tenure and 61% were eligible for promotion. Librarians at public institutions were more often eligible for tenure than librarians at private institutions. In addition, the larger the institution, the more likely it is to grant tenure to librarians. Librarians with faculty status are more likely to be eligible for tenure than librarians with academic or administrative status. Eighty-nine percent of librarians with faculty status and 37% of librarians with academic status are eligible for promotion. When librarians are evaluated for tenure and promotion, campus-wide criteria are used at 74% of those institutions which grant tenure/promotion to librarians, and 41% have developed their own criteria. A comprehensive analysis of survey results is followed by examples of tenure and promotion documents submitted by public institutions, private institutions, and institutions with unions; evaluation forms; weighting of criteria; supplement to faculty handbook; and external evaluation documents. (Contains 28 references.) (SWC)

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